**Statement-II**

*Call charges and free calls*

| | Rural | | Urban | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number of Calls (Monthly) | Rate/MCU (Rs.) | Number of Calls (Monthly) | Rate/MCU (Rs.) |
| (i) | Upto 125 calls | Free | Upto 75 calls | free |
| (ii) | 126 to 225 calls | 0.60 | 76 to 200 calls | 0.80 |
| (iii) | 226 to 250 calls | 0.80 | 201 to 500 calls | 1.00 |
| (iv) | 251 to 500 calls | 1.00 | Above 500 calls | 1.20 |
| (v) | Above 500 calls | 1.20 | | |

**Telecom services in Andhra Pradesh**

*279. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been taken any steps to provide/ improve telecom services in backward, rural and tribal areas of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) The Government is continuously taking steps to provide and improve telecom services in Rural, Backward and Tribal areas of whole country including Andhra Pradesh. All the telephone exchanges are of electronic type, with STD and Internet access facility. All of them except 4 in rural area are provided with reliable media.

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited has already provided telephone facility to 23401 villages in Andhra Pradesh as per target and 85 villages have been provided with telephone by private operator. All the villages in the country including Andhra Pradesh are proposed to be provided with telephone facility by end of 2002.

The district-wise details are given in Statement I, II and III.

**Statement-I**

*District-wise plans and achievement of switching capacity in rural exchanges during 2001-2002*

(As on 31.1.2002)

| Sl. No. | Name of District | Net Switching Capacity Plan | Net Switching Capacity added since 1.4.2001 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Adilabad | 1656 | 480 |
| 2. | Anantapur | 4352 | 2432 |
| 3. | Chittoor | 5872 | 2096 |
| 4. | Cuddapah | 1280 | 1392 |
| 5. | East Godavari | 3000 | 1464 |
| 6. | Guntur | 3969 | 1368 |
| 7. | Hyderabad | 0 | 0 |
| 8. | Karimnagar | 2384 | 1488 |
| 9. | Khammam | 4784 | 2072 |
| 10. | Krishna | 3120 | 3328 |
| 11. | Kurnool | 3400 | 3600 |
| 12. | Mahabubnagar | 5936 | 2328 |
| 13. | Medak | 4104 | 488 |
| 14. | Nalgonda | 6904 | 1400 |
| 15. | Nellore | 5944 | 1272 |
| 16. | Nizamabad | 2904 | 304 |
| 17. | Prakasam | 3608 | 944 |
| 18. | Ranga Reddy | 2112 | 1728 |
| 19. | Srikakulam | 4496 | 1392 |
| 20. | Visakhapatnam | 1840 | 1312 |
| 21. | Vizianagaram | 3280 | 184 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 22. | Warangal | 3504 | 824 |
| 23. | West Godavari | 736 | 3512 |
| | TOTAL: | 79184 | 35408 |

1. *Provision of reliable media:* 160 stations have been provided with reliable media during this year. Reliable transmission media is provided to 2,371 rural exchanges out of a total of 2,375. Steps are being taken for provision of reliable media in the remaining 4 rural exchanges.

2. *M/W systems:* 75 systems with 670 route KMs are provided so far during the current year.

3. *OFC:* 254 systems with 2402 route KMs are provided so far during the current year.

**Statement-II**

*District-wise achievements in rural areas of Andhra Pradesh Telecom Circle as on 31.1.2002*

(Addition of New Exchanges, Direct Exchange Lines (DELs), STD PCOs & Local PCOs)

| Sl. No. | Name of District | No. of Rural Exchanges | Achievement in Rural areas during 2001-02 (upto 31.1.2002) | | | | Waiting list in Rural areas, as on 31.1.2002 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | New Exchange | DELs | STD PCOs | Local PCOs | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 1. | Adilabad | 80 | 0 | 554 | 29 | 80 | 2236 |
| 2. | Anantapur | 128 | 1 | 565 | 42 | 28 | 3668 |
| 3. | Chittoor | 146 | 1 | 2358 | 75 | 6 | 9165 |
| 4. | Cuddapah | 94 | 1 | 2717 | 70 | 34 | 1945 |
| 5. | East Godavari | 121 | 2 | 7792 | 82 | 266 | 3378 |
| 6. | Guntur | 143 | 6 | 8247 | 219 | 93 | 7317 |
| 7. | Hyderabad | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 8. | Karimnagar | 97 | 0 | 1918 | 169 | 35 | 4065 |
| 9. | Khammam | 109 | 2 | 1541 | 180 | 64 | 4715 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10. | Krishna | 130 | 2 | 7952 | 79 | 7 | 5763 |
| 11. | Kurnool | 160 | 3 | 3176 | 89 | 89 | 723 |
| 12. | Mahabubnagar | 140 | 7 | 2540 | 106 | 108 | 4164 |
| 13. | Medak | 97 | 1 | 1173 | 32 | 88 | 8006 |
| 14. | Nalgonda | 130 | 4 | 1403 | 165 | 94 | 11196 |
| 15. | Nellore | 119 | 3 | 3489 | 29 | 6 | 7343 |
| 16. | Nizamabad | 91 | 5 | 5447 | 44 | 35 | 3190 |
| 17. | Prakasam | 115 | 1 | 3502 | 34 | 29 | 5337 |
| 18. | Ranga Reddy | 75 | 3 | 9076 | 0 | 62 | 6148 |
| 19. | Srikakulam | 66 | 1 | 1455 | 67 | 10 | 4253 |
| 20. | Visakhapatnam | 57 | 1 | 3668 | 71 | 15 | 3986 |
| 21. | Vizianagaram | 62 | 1 | 1623 | 35 | 3 | 2102 |
| 22. | Warangal | 70 | 3 | 1364 | 23 | 78 | 4723 |
| 23. | West Godavari | 147 | 0 | 9011 | 73 | 106 | 2696 |
| | TOTAL: | 2377 | 48 | 79441 | 1713 | 1336 | 106119 |

**Statement-III**

*Plan and achievement of tribal exchanges in Andhra Pradesh telecom circle during 2001-2002*

(As on 31.01.2002)

| Sl. No. | Name of District | Net Switching Capacity Plan | Net Switching Capacity added | No. of Tribal Exchanges | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Plan | Commissioned |
| 1. | Adilabad | 1656 | 1656 | 2 | Nil |
| 2. | East Godavari | 512 | 330 | 2 | Nil |
| 3. | Khammam | 6268 | 2738 | 4 | 2 |
| 4. | Mahabub Nagar | 456 | 52 | Nil | Nil |
| 5. | Srikakulam | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| 6. | Visakhapatnam | 2008 | 632 | Nil | Nil |
| 7. | Vizianagaram | Nil | 80 | Nil | Nil |
| 8. | Warangal | 2056 | Nil | 3 | Nil |
| 9. | West Godavari | 688 | 100 | Nil | Nil |
| | TOTAL: | 13644 | 5588 | 11 | 2 |

1. *Provision of reliable media:* 10 stations have been provided with reliable media during this year. Reliable transmission media is provided to 97 Tribal exchanges so far out of total 98. Steps are being

taken for provision of reliable medium to the remaining one Tribal exchange. All 98 existing tribal exchanges are provided with STD.

2. *M/W system:* One system with 6.1 route KMs is provided and the same is upgraded with OFC medium during the current year.

3. *OFC:* 18 systems with 299.644 Route KMs are provided so far during the current year.

**Opposition to labour reforms legislation**

*280. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether leading trade unions in the country have expressed their opposition to Government's move to labour reforms legislation;

(b) whether they have observed a protest day on 14th March, 2002;

(c) whether they are against the disinvestment of Blue Chip Public Sector undertakings like VSNL; and

(d) if so, what is Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) The Central Trade Union Organisations have been generally opposing amendments in labour laws unless these are perceived as beneficial to the working class.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) According to the Ministry of Disinvestment which is implementing the disinvestments of Public Sector Undertakings, the transaction relating to disinvestment in VSNL has been concluded recently and smooth transfer of management control to the Strategic Partner, Panatone Finvest Ltd. (Tata Group) has taken place on 13.02.2002.